

THE HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS BICYCLE CLUB.

FIRST ANNUAL RACE MEETING.

The first annual race meeting in connection with the Hastings and St. Leonards Bicycle Club, was held in the Central Cricket and Recreation Ground, on Wednesday. The weather was most inauspicious, heavy showers of rain falling during the afternoon; the attendance, therefore, was small. Mr. Otto R. Travers officiated as starter and Mr. A. J. Lovett as judge. Mr. French, of the Maidstone Bicycle Club, also assisted. The following are the results of the races:—

ONE MILE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SCRATCH RACE.—1st prize, Championship Medal, presented by Mr. A. J. Lovett; 2nd, a handsome Irickstand, presented by Messrs. Randle and Jenner; 3rd, Telescope, presented by Mr. Reed.

1st HEAT.

C. A. Palmer	1
A. T. Lovett	2
S. Philcox	3
S. S. Thompson	4
H. Davis	5
W. L. G. Hinton	6

Palmer went to the front at starting, and maintained his lead throughout. Davis was second, and kept so for about half-distance, when he was overtaken by Lovett, Philcox, and Thompson. At the finish the positions remained unaltered.

2nd HEAT.

E. C. Gilbert	1
H. F. Style	2
F. W. Beck	3
J. W. Tait	4
E. E. Thompson	5
F. Amen	6

Gilbert had it all his own way, and won easily.

TWO MILE HANDBICAP MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING RACE.—1st prize, a handsome-framed Painting, presented by Mr. J. Dearth; 2nd, a Result Box, presented by Mrs. Story; 3rd, silver-plated Saloon Air Pistol, presented by Mr. A. J. White.

1st HEAT.

H. Davis, 50 yds. start	1
A. T. Lovett, scratch	2
F. W. Beck, 150 yds.	3
F. Amen, 100 yds.	4
W. L. G. Hinton, 250 yds.	5

Davis soon took the lead, and maintained it throughout, winning easily. Lovett, however, who was gaining ground, dismounted too late, and had to go back, thus throwing himself behind some distance.

2nd HEAT.

A. W. Chesterfield, 100 yds. start	1
C. A. Palmer, 20 yds.	2
H. F. Style, scratch	3
T. Beckton, 60 yds.	4
E. E. Thompson, 100 yds.	5

Chesterfield won easily, having it all his own way with the good start given him. Beckton rode well for some distance, but he then gave up. Palmer was second and Style third.

150 YARDS SLOW RACE.—1st prize, a Handsome Cup, presented by Mr. C. B. Allen; 2nd, Flask, presented by Mr. H. F. Style.

1st HEAT.

H. Davis	1
E. C. Gilbert	2
C. A. Palmer	3
S. S. Thompson	4
A. W. Chesterfield	5

All five competitors started, but the wind was evidently too strong for the slow pace at which the machines travelled, as one after the other capsized until only Davis was left.

2nd HEAT.

A. T. Lovett	1
E. E. Thompson	2
F. W. Beck	3
C. Davis	4
F. Amen	5
W. L. G. Hinton	6

Lovett and E. E. Thompson were the only two who reached the winning-post, the others falling soon after the start.

3rd HEAT.

H. F. Style	1
T. Beckton	2
S. Philcox	3
J. W. Tait	4
A. J. White	5

Style and Beckton were the only two to go the whole 150 yards, and finished in the order named.

FIVE MILE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.—1st prize, a Handsome Clock, presented by Mr. C. B. Galskell; 2nd, Race Glass, presented by Mr. J. C. Brown, of London; 3rd, a Gold Pin, presented by Mr. J. Fisher.

1st HEAT.

H. F. Style	1
E. E. Thompson	2
C. Davis	3
J. W. Tait	4
C. A. Palmer	5
F. Amen	6
T. Beckton	7

C. Davis went away with the lead, F. Amen being second, Style third, and Thompson fourth. Amen soon passed Davis, however, but shortly afterwards fell back into second place. The third and fourth men kept close company, and gradually gained on their opponents, and eventually took first and second place, Davis being third. In this order they came in. Beckton met with an accident and had to retire; Amen also capsized.

2nd HEAT.

E. C. Gilbert	1
S. Philcox	2
S. S. Thompson	3
A. T. Lovett	4
H. Davis	5
W. L. G. Hinton	6

S. S. Thompson went away with the lead, Gilbert being second, Philcox third, and Lovett fourth. This order was maintained for some time, when Thompson capsized, which threw him back into fourth place, about fifty yards behind Lovett. He, however, was soon up and at it again, being loudly cheered as he gained on the others. He soon overtook Lovett, and came in third, he having ridden exceedingly well. Gilbert was first, and Philcox second.

ONE MILE CONSOLATION RACE (Open to Members riding in two of the previous races, and not winning a prize).—1st prize, a Writing Case, presented by Mr. Otto R. Travers; 2nd, a Gold Pencil Case, presented by Mr. E. C. Gilbert; 3rd, Thermometer, presented by Mr. F. Amen.

H. Davis	1
Beck	2
E. E. Thomson	3

This was the best race of the day, six starting. They kept in close company during the whole race. H. Davis was first, being about a foot in front of Beck. E. E. Thomson finished third, about the same distance in front of Hinton.

FINAL OF ONE MILE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.

Palmer	1
Gilbert	2
Philcox	3

This was an excellent race, the competitors keeping well together for some time. Gilbert and Palmer then went a little ahead, and had a hard fight for first place. Gilbert, however, was misinformed as to the number of rounds, and lost a lead which he had obtained. He put on a spurt, but could not again overtake Palmer, who won by about a yard, Philcox being third.

FINAL OF TWO MILE HANDBICAP MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING.

Chesterfield, 100 yds. start	1
Lovett, scratch	2
Style, scratch	3

Chesterfield again had everything his own way, and won by about 120 yards. A. Lovett was second, and Style third.

FINAL OF 150 YARDS SLOW RACE.

Lovett	1
Beckton	2

Only two reached the goal, Beckton going in first and Lovett second. Lovett thus took first, and Beckton second prize.

FINAL OF FIVE MILE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

Gilbert	1
Philcox	2
S. S. Thompson	3

This was a good race between Philcox and Gilbert, who kept re-passing each other, and had a hard fight for first place. Gilbert eventually won by about ten yards. S. S. Thompson was third.

The prizes were presented at the close of the race.

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